

The message also announced that the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2673) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and for other purposes, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following members as the managers of the conference on the part of the House: Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. REGULA, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. WOLF, Mr. WALSH, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. GOODE, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. OBEY, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. DELAULO, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. BOYD, and Mr. FATTAH.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1367. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a loan repayment program regarding the provision of veterinary services in shortage situations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

H.R. 1648. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain water distribution systems of the Cachuma Project, California, to the Carpinteria Valley Water District and the Montecito Water District; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1732. An act to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Williamson County, Texas, Water Recycling and Reuse Project, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2304. An act to resolve boundary conflicts in the vicinity of the Mark Twain National Forest in Barry and Stone Counties, Missouri, that resulted from private landowner reliance on a subsequent Federal survey, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3157. An act to provide for the designation of a Department of Agriculture disaster liaison to assist State and local employees of the Department in coordination with other disaster agencies in response to a federally declared disaster area as a result of a disaster, to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

H.R. 3209. An act to amend the Reclamation Project Authorization Act of 1972 to clarify the acreage for which the North Loup division is authorized to provide irrigation water under the Missouri River Basin project; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3217. An act to provide for the conveyance of several small parcels of National Forest System land in the Apalachicola National Forest, Florida, to resolve boundary discrepancies involving the Mt. Trial Primitive Baptist Church of Wakulla County, Florida, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

H.R. 3353. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 525 Main Street in Tarboro, NC, as the "George Henry White Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 299. Concurrent resolution honoring Mr. Sargent Shriver for his dedication and service to the United States of America, for his service in the United States Navy, and for his lifetime of work as an ambassador for the poor and powerless citizens of the United States of America, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—NOVEMBER 17, 2003

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1862. A bill to provide certain exceptions from requirements for bilateral agreements with Australia and the United Kingdom for exemptions from the International Traffic in Arms Regulations.

S. 1863. A bill to authorize the transfer of certain naval vessels.

S. 1864. A bill to enhance the security of the United States and United States allies.

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#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1875. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the mental health benefits parity provisions for an additional year.

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3185. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 38 Spring Street in Nashua, NH, as the "Hugh Gregg Post Office Building."

H.R. 3198. An act to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to authorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and for other purposes.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and where referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-315. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Michigan relative to danger pay and family separation allowances for members of the military in combat zones; to the Committee on Armed Services.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 130

Whereas, at this moment, our troops serving in harm's way are facing some of the most trying situations; and

Whereas, with the end of the fiscal year on September 30, supplemental pay increases approved for serving in combat zones expire without action by Congress to extend this as part of defense appropriations. Rates of imminent danger pay and family separation allowances had been raised by \$75 and \$150 respectively, effective October 2002. Rates for imminent danger pay and family separation allowances are scheduled to return to the prior levels on October 1, 2003; and

Whereas, the effects of a pay reduction on the brave men and women representing us in the war on terror and their families could be

demoralizing. Forcing added sacrifices, especially on the families at home, is inappropriate: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the house of representatives,* That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to maintain the current imminent danger pay and family separation allowances for members of the military in combat zones; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-316. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey relative to the New Jersey National Guard; to the Committee on Armed Services.

#### ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO. 254

Whereas, the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs supports Homeland Security in this State by preparing the New Jersey National Guard and providing specialized teams and training to emergency first responders; and

Whereas, there are more than 1,700 New Jersey National Guard troops on State and federal active duty involved in Homeland Security and Homeland Defense missions; and

Whereas, the New Jersey Army National Guard provides mobilized combat ready military units for deployment in State and national activations; and

Whereas, the New Jersey Army National Guard provides combat-ready airmen, aircraft and equipment for world wide deployment in support of United States Air Force objectives; and

Whereas, the department is responsible for training and equipping domestic emergency response teams in support of New Jersey's Homeland Security program; and

Whereas, the federal government has failed to establish a Civil Support Team in this State; and

Whereas, the United States Congress is responsible for appropriating funds to the New Jersey National Guard for the procurement of critical resources to be deployed in the effective execution of all assigned missions; and

Whereas, it is necessary to provide critical funding and equipment to the New Jersey National Guard; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. This House calls upon the United States Congress to provide funding and equipment to the New Jersey National Guard to support the Guard in the execution of all assigned missions.

2. This House urges the United States Congress to appropriate sufficient funds to the New Jersey Army National Guard to procure 464 High Mobility Multi-Purpose Vehicles to meet its authorized strength; continue the replacement of its helicopter fleet with UH-60 Black Hawk Helicopters; accelerate the procurement of AH-64 Apache Helicopters; replace the M113 Armored Personnel Carrier with Bradley Fighting Vehicles, and provide the armor division with deployable M1A1 tanks.

3. This House requests the United States Congress to appropriate sufficient funds to the New Jersey Air National Guard for the procurement of new Block 50/52/plus aircraft and for the upgrading of KC-135E refueling airframes.

4. This House further calls upon the United States Congress to establish and fully fund a Civil Support team in the State of New Jersey and to provide more and better protective clothing for team members and body armor for counter terrorism missions and to